

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Community & Services Committee held on Tuesday, 16 September 2025 beginning at 10.00am held in the Council Chambers, 10 Gorge Road, Queenstown.

Membership

Councillor Craig Ferguson (Chair), Councillor Esther Whitehead, Councillor Barry Bruce, Councillor Lisa Guy, Councillor Cody Tucker, Councillor Matt Wong

Attendees

Ken Bailey (General Manager, Community Services), Kat Banyard (Senior Parks Advisor), Sophie Craig (Parks & Reserves Planner), Briana Pringle (Parks Planning Manager), Dave Winterburn (Parks Manager), Matthew Judd (Parks Property Planner), Dominic Harrison (Parks and Reserves Planner), Jeannie Galavazi (Principal Parks Planner), Marie Day (Community Partnerships Manager), Tarsy Koentges (Parks and Reserves Officer Contracts), Ruby Mills (Democracy Services Advisor), Jane Robertson (Senior Democracy Services Advisor); no members of the media and approximately five members of the public.

Apologies

There were no apologies.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Wong declared a conflict of interest regarding Item 2 and opted to step back from the table for this item.

Matters Lying on the Table

There were no matters lying on the table.

Public Forum

1. Mr Sam Johnson (Paererewā Charitable Trust)

Mr Johnson joined the meeting online to present the proposed 'Thousand Year Bench' installation at Jardine Park. The initiative, led by the Paererewā Charitable Trust, aims to foster community connection through landscape-integrated art. The bench is designed as a symbol of friendship and collaboration and is crafted from monolithic stone. The project is supported by the Edgar family and will be maintained by the Trust.

- Councillors inquired about the bench material. Mr Johnson confirmed it is made of bluestone.



- Councillors asked about health and safety considerations. Mr Johnson advised the design had been reviewed by the QLDC design panel, with input on handrails and step dimensions, and complies with playground safety standards.

Confirmation of Agenda

It was moved (Councillor Guy, Councillor Wong):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve that the agenda be confirmed without alteration:

Motion was carried unanimously.

Confirmation of Minutes

It was moved (Councillor Tucker, Councillor Whitehead):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve that the minutes of the meeting on 14 August 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Motion was carried unanimously.

1. Paererewā interactive art bench seat proposal for Jardine Park

The purpose of this report was to consider approval of a permanent art installation in Jardine Park.

Briana Pringle (Parks & Reserves Planner) and Sophie Craig (Parks & Reserves Planner) presented the item on behalf of Christine Skipworth (Parks & Reserves Planner) and took the report as read.

The presenters summarised the process to date regarding the Jardine Park development plan, including public consultation in 2024 and adoption by Council in April 2025. Part of the development plan included proposed seating positions for park benches. The interactive art bench proposal is being made under the Arts policy.

Councillors made no inquiries but commented positively on the opportunity to support the initiative.

It was moved (Councillor Wong, Councillor Bruce):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve to:

1. **Note** the contents of this report; and



2. **Approve** the Paererewā bench seat proposal in Jardine Park.

Motion was carried unanimously.

2. **Minor amendment to the Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2016 for Watersports Holdings Limited Partnership jetty Access**

The purpose of this report was to consider a minor amendment to the Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2016; specifically to update the commercial access area in line with a recent Environment Court decision.

Matthew Judd (Parks Property Planner) and Jeannie Galavazi (Principal Parks Planner) presented the item and took the report as read.

Matthew Judd provided a brief overview of the item's history, noting its initial consideration in 2020, subsequent hearings of submissions in 2021, and a recent outcome from the Environment Court. The proposed amendment reflects the Environment Court's ruling and introduces a revised "Y-shaped" access design, which improves pedestrian flow and includes stair access.

There were no further comments or questions from councillors.

It was moved (Councillor Tucker, Councillor Guy):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve to:

1. **Note** the contents of this report; and
2. **Recommend to Council** to adopt a minor amendment to the Queenstown Bay Foreshore Reserve Management Plan 2016 [Attachment A] to amend the commercial access as shown at [Attachment B].

Motion was carried unanimously.

3. **Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan 2024**

The purpose of this report was to consider recommending to Council that the Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan (RMP) is approved for public notification.

Dominic Harrison (Parks and Reserves Planner) and Jeannie Galavazi (Principal Parks Planner) presented the item and took the report as read.



The presenters outlined how the RMP supports future management of the reserve, particularly in light of growth and increasing commercial interest in the Frankton area. It aims to protect the reserve's use and values while also enabling appropriate development.

The following points were discussed in response to questions and comments from elected members:

- Hearings are expected to take place following public notification in November, which will occur after the local elections. The hearing panel will be appointed by the newly elected Council.
- There are placeholders pending input from mana whenua, which will be incorporated into the RMP prior to public notification.
- The naming of the Ivan Young Zoological Reserve was discussed, with suggestions to reconsider the use of the term "zoological reserve." While the name acknowledges historical use and the contributions of the Young family, there is interest in exploring a name that better reflects current use and reduces confusion for visitors.
- Clarification was provided regarding the pink-hatched area on page 61 of the draft plan. This land is currently listed as privately owned.
- The draft plan allows for future public transport options, including potential ferry access. Suitable locations have already been identified within QLDC road reserve areas.
- Feedback suggested that in some places, fencing in the reserve created a sense of privatisation; removal of fencing is proposed to improve accessibility for the public.
- The Young family has been provided with the draft plan and will be engaged through the standard consultation process. There is support for further discussion with the family regarding potential renaming of the reserve.
- There was acknowledgement of the contribution of Ivan Young and the Young family to the reserve.

It was moved (Councillor Wong, Councillor Whitehead):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve to:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Recommend** to Council to approve the Draft Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan for public notification in accordance with section 41(6) of the Reserves Act 1977; and
3. **Recommend** to Council to select three Councillors to be appointed to a panel to hear and consider submissions received, subject to the Draft



Kawarau Riverside Reserve Management Plan being approved for public notification.

Motion was carried unanimously.

4. **Annual Report 2024–2025 for Te Muka Toi, Te Muka Tākata | The Creativity, Culture and Heritage Strategy for the Queenstown Lakes District**

The purpose of this report was to present The Creativity, Culture and Heritage Strategy for the Queenstown Lakes District to the Community & Services Committee for noting.

Marie Day (Community Partnerships Manager) and Tarsy Koentges (Parks and Reserves Officer Contracts) presented the item along with members of the Steering Group: Jane Peasey (Director of Lakes District Museum & Gallery) and Samantha Kirk (Chief Operating Officer, Three Lakes Cultural Trust).

The presenters described how the strategy fosters collaboration across the district, aligns with government priorities, promotes inclusive investment, built momentum in the arts and culture space and celebrates mana whenua and community heritage. Annual reporting of the strategy ensures visibility and guides future progress.

The following points were discussed in response to questions and comments from elected members:

- Arts and culture are often underfunded, yet they play a key role in community connection, heritage preservation, tourism, and economic development.
- The upcoming Creative Spaces Project seeks to activate underutilised or unexpected venues for creative use, working with local businesses and artists to test out this concept in November 2025.
- Kāi Tahu have been and are represented on the board, to ensure perspectives are included.
- The strategy highlights collaboration, mental wellbeing, and support for youth pursuing creative careers.
- Committee members commended the thoroughness of the Annual Plan, and the first year of deliverables and the collaborative efforts behind it.

It was moved (Councillor Tucker, Councillor Whitehead):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve to:

1. **Note** the contents of this report.

Motion was carried unanimously.



5. Chair's Report

The purpose of this report was to provide the Community & Services Committee with an update on projects of interest and includes a summary of projects that have been implemented over this triennium.

Craig 'Ferg' Ferguson (Chair, Community & Services Committee) presented the item and read through the highlights of the report.

Chair Ferg acknowledged the efforts from the team and acknowledged the valuable contributions of Esther Whitehead as Councillor and Deputy Chair for the committee.

Mr Ken Bailey (General Manager, Community Services) also commented on:

- The collective efforts of staff and the importance of values-based work, including the less tangible aspects that contribute to community wellbeing.
- Appreciation for the clear direction provided by elected members and the importance of accountability in delivering outcomes.
- The ongoing commitment to working in partnership with the community, noting that many projects were delivered through strong collaborative relationships.

It was moved (Councillor Bruce, Councillor Whitehead):

That the Community & Services Committee resolve to:

2. **Note** the contents of this report.

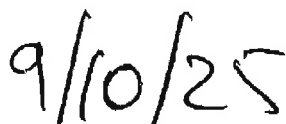
Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 11.10am

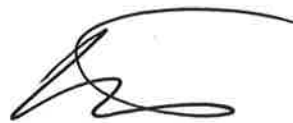
Confirmed as a true and correct record:



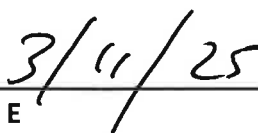
CHAIR



DATE



CHIEF EXECUTIVE



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